

02-26-12

Series: God's Economy

God's Economy (2)

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Matthew 6:19-24

(Continuation from 02-19-12)

The Doctrine of God's Economy

Human beings are naturally thing-oriented. We are strongly inclined to be wrapped up in seeking, acquiring, enjoying, and protecting material possessions. In prosperous cultures such as those in which most Westerners live, the propensity to build our lives around things is especially great.

The leading religionists of Jesus' day were preoccupied with things. They were materialistic, greedy, avaricious, covetous, grasping, and manipulative. That **"the Pharisees... were lovers of money" (Luke 16:14) was not incidental to the other sins for which Jesus rebuked them.**

Because they did not have a right view of themselves (see [Matthew 5:3-12](#)), of their relation to the world ([Matthew 5:13-16](#)), of the Word of God ([Matthew 5:17-20](#)), of morality ([Matthew 5:21-48](#)), and of religious duties ([Matthew 6:1-18](#)), **it was inevitable they would not have a right view of material things.**

- 1) Because they did not have a right view of **their relation to the world** ([Matthew 5:13-16](#)),
- 2) Because they did not have a right view **of the Word of God** ([Matthew 5:17-20](#)),
- 3) Because they did not have **a right view of morality** ([Matthew 5:21-48](#)),
- 4) Because they did not have a right view **of religious duties** ([Matthew 6:1-18](#)),

Once again, because they did not have a right view of themselves (see [Matthew 5:3-12](#)), of their relation to the world ([Matthew 5:13-16](#)), of the Word of God ([Matthew 5:17-20](#)), of morality ([Matthew 5:21-48](#)), and of religious duties ([Matthew 6:1-18](#)), **it was inevitable they would not have a right view of material things.**

Jesus first shows how their view of nonessential material things was perverted ([Matthew 6:4-24](#)) and then how their view of essential material things was also perverted ([Matthew 6:25-34](#)).

Their views both of **luxuries** and **necessities** were warped. What is your view of luxuries and necessities?